

## Editorial



### PSI-FELLOW/COFUND – International Fellowship Program for Postdocs at Paul Scherrer Institut

#### EC co-financed fellowship program

offers these researchers the opportunity to perform their innovative scientific project in one of the four attractive scientific fields tackled at PSI: i) materials and matters, ii) life-sciences, iii) energy and environment and iv) accelerator technologies. The application has to be made together with a senior scientist at PSI, who will act as the fellow's mentor. The list of mentors and themes is published on <http://www.psi.ch/psi-fellow/list-of-mentors-and-themes>. The collaboration with the mentor guarantees the feasibility of the project with regard to available resources and instrumentation. Project proposal together with CV and two reference letters has to be submitted not later than **August 6, 2012** on the PSI-Job-Portal (<http://www.psi.ch/pa/offenstellen/>).

The new funding program PSI-FELLOW addresses international postdocs and

Please find more details on the PSI-FELLOW webpage: <http://www.psi.ch/psi-fellow/psi-fellow>

Stefan Müller, PSI-FELLOW Program Management Unit

## Research highlight



Jeroen van den Brink (left), Krzyszto Wohlfeld (centre), both from the IFW Dresden, and Thorsten Schmitt from PSI discussing the theoretical description of the experimental results (Photo: Philip Dera)

result is reported in a paper published in Nature by an international team of researchers led by experimental physicists from the Paul Scherrer Institut (Switzerland) and theoretical physicists from the IFW Dresden (Germany).

### Physicists observe the splitting of an electron inside a solid

**J. Schlappa et al., Nature Advance Online Publication, 18.04.2012, DOI: 10.1038/nature10974**

An electron has been observed to decay into two separate parts, each carrying a particular property of

the electron: a spinon carrying its spin – the property making the electron behave as a tiny compass needle – and an orbiton carrying its orbital moment – which arises from the electron's motion around the nucleus. These newly created particles, however, cannot leave the material in which they have been produced. This

Read more on: <http://www.psi.ch/media/current-news>